Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 20, and ending on page 5, line 12, of the application to recite:

The present invention relates to retro-inverted peptides (also referred to herein as "targeting retro-inverted peptides" or "targeting retro-inversion peptides") that target specific receptor sites *in vivo* and/or promote uptake of active agents and/or enhance active agent delivery across the G1T into the systemic, portal or hepatic circulation. In particular, these retro-inverted peptides specifically bind to one or more of the human gastro-intestinal tract receptors HPT1, HPEPT1, D2H or hSI (for example, amino acids 29-273 of HPT1, amino acids 391-571 of HPEPT1, amino acids 387-685 of D2H, or amino acids 272-667 of hSI) or their equivalents in other mammals and have general utility in targeting active agents to selected sites and/or selected tissues in the body in which the receptors are expressed. These peptides are synthesized from D-amino acids and have a reverse sequence order of the GIT targeting agents disclosed and claimed in the above-referenced WO 98151325. The present invention also relates to derivatives (including but not limited to fragments) of these retro-inverted peptides, which derivatives are functionally similar to the retro-inverted peptides (that is, capable of displaying one or more known functional activities of the retro-inverted peptides). These functional activities include but are not limited to the ability to bind or to compete with binding to the gastro-intestinal tract receptors HPT1, HPEPT1, D2H or hSI or the ability to be bound by an antibody directed against the retro-inverted peptide. Derivatives can be tested for the desired activity by procedures known in the art, including binding to a receptor domain or to Caco-2 cells, *in vitro,* or to intestinal tissue, *in vitro* or *in vivo.*